GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3865
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
FRESH CASES OF BIRD FLU
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh cases of bird flu have been reported again in some States particularly in West Bengal:

(b) if so, the factors responsible for recurrence of bird flu cases; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.The fresh cases of bird flu have currently been reported in two states i.e. West Bengal and Tripura.

(b) The possible factors which may be responsible for recurrence of bird flu outbreaks are:

(i) Status of neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, China, Myanmar and Pakistan where the outbreaks are continuing.

(ii) Sharing of a huge porous international border.

(iii) India falls on the route of three major flyways of migratory birds.

(iv) Inadequate bio-security in backyard poultry production system etc.

(c) The remedial measures taken are as follows:

(i) All the birds in the infected zone are being culled against payment of compensation.

(ii) Restriction on movement of poultry and poultry products from infected to uninfected areas have been imposed.

(iii) All the State Governments have been alerted to become more vigilant.

(iv) Surveillance activities against bird flu has been stepped up throughout the country.

(v) Awareness campaign on bird flu have been intensified, particularly in eastern and north-eastern India, through Television,Radio,Newspaper etc.